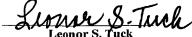


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Arlington, VA 22202 on December 5, 2001.

By:



Date:

December 5, 2001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Gary B. Gordon

Group Unit:

1655

A SH

Serial No.:

09/971,867

Examiner:

Title: "Solid-Phase Chemical Analysis Using Array Hybridization Facilitated By Agitation During Centrifuging"

Filed on:

October 4, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 10002431-4

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the specification after the title by inserting the following heading:

-- Cross Reference to Related Application(s)--;

And add the paragraph:

--This is a continuation of co-pending application serial number 09/590,934 filed on June 8, 2000 which is a Continuation-In-Part of co-pending application serial number 09/514, 975 filed on Feb. 29, 2000. This application is a continuation of 09/971,867 filed on October 4, 2001, which is a continuation of 09/514,975 filed on February 29, 2000. All of the aforementioned applications are hereby Incorporated by reference in their entireties.--

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

GARY B. GORDON

Michael J. Beck Reg, No.: 40,907

Date: December 5, 2001 Phone: (650) 485-3864

Agilent Technologies, Inc. Legal Department, M/S 51UPD P. O. Box 7599

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**IP** Administration